



THIRD SUNDAY OF

**Lent**

**Welcome!** *United Christian Church of Austin is an Open and Affirming congregation, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person created in God's image. We welcome into full membership and participation in the Body of Christ persons of every race, ethnic background, age, gender, gender expression/identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, social-economic background, marital status and faith background. We welcome all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of participation in Christ's Church.*

March 24, 2019

Third Sunday of Lent

9 AM

Gathering Music

Julie Stiles

### – WE GATHER IN FAITH –

*This service will feature singing meditation in the Taizé tradition. Simple and repetitive songs will be sung, led by a cantor. Once you are familiar with a song, we encourage you to put away your bulletin and sing as meditation or prayer.*

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Nikki Stahl

Passing of the Peace

Peace be with you. **And also with you.**

*Children are invited to come forward to share in the Children's Message as we sing:*

Peace, sal - aam, sha - lom, \_\_\_ Peace, sal - aam, sha - lom, \_\_\_

Peace, sal - aam, sha - lom, \_\_\_ Peace, sal - aam, sha - lom. \_\_\_

Children's Message

Emily Jamison Guerrero

Children's Blessing

“Shalom Chaverim”

*(Peace, till we meet again)*

*After the Children's Message, childcare will be offered in Room 3 and the nursery, and Worship and Wonder will be offered for elementary-aged children in Room 1.*

Sha - lom, cha - ve - rim! Sha - lom cha - ve - rim! Sha - lom, sha - lom! Le - hit - ra - ot, le - hit - ra - ot, sha - lom, sha - lom.

lom! Le - hit - ra - ot, le - hit - ra - ot, sha - lom, sha - lom.

\*Every time you see this symbol, you are invited to rise in body or Spirit.

## – CENTERING –

### Opening Words of Meditation

*Longing, Lenten* by Brett Foster

The walk back, more loss. When I open the door  
it's over, so I set to piddling: tidy  
end tables, check the mail, draw a bath.  
The restless energy finally settles  
as I pass the mirror. I peer into it.  
My nose touches glass. Not much left,  
already effaced, not even a cross  
to speak of. A smudge. A few black soot stains  
like pin points on the forehead. The rest  
of the blessed ash has vanished to a grey  
amorphousness, to symbolize... not much.  
Except a wish for those hallowed moments  
to be followed by sustaining confidence.  
Except spirit, which means to shun its listless  
weight for yearning, awkward if not more earnest  
prayer and fasting in the clear face of dust.

Taken from Jay Hopler and Kimberly Johnson, editors, *Before the Door of God: An Anthology of Devotional Poetry* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013), 425pp.

## – ACKNOWLEDGING OUR BROKENNESS –

### Kyrie

Rev. Anna Humble, *cantor*

*The cantor will sing the top line marked A, and the congregation is invited to respond by singing the bottom line, marked B.*

**A** In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. **A** For the

**B** Lord, have mer - cy.

\*Every time you see this symbol, you are invited to rise in body or Spirit.

peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For the peace of the whole world, the well - be - ing of the

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

\*Every time you see this symbol, you are invited to rise in body or Spirit.

A Help, save, com-fort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.

A - men

### Confession (*Unison*)

**Most Merciful God, we confess that we have turned away from you. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and friend. Amen.**

*A moment of silence follows for personal reflection and silent confession.*

### \*Assurance of Grace

Rev. Nikki Stahl

### \*Gloria

Rev. Anna Humble, *cantor*

*The cantor will sing the Gloria once, and then people are invited to repeat it:*

*Refrain*

A Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

## — WE MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD —

### \*Seeking the Word in Scripture

Exodus 3:1-15 (Pew Bible p.49)

### Meditation

Rev. Anna Humble

*A moment of silence follows the meditation for reflection.*

## — WE SHARE OUR PRAYERS —

**Singing our Prayer** *As we prepare our hearts for prayer, we sing the following refrain twice:*

***O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.  
O Lord hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.***

\*Every time you see this symbol, you are invited to rise in body or Spirit.

## Joys and Concerns of the People

Rev. Nikki Stahl

Including Clementine Tomlinson, Kat Maerz, David Baker, Mia Courson, Barbara Rowton, Karen Rowton, the family of Vernon von Bieberstein, and the family of Dick Hibbard. *Please send updates to Pastor Carl Schwartz-King, carl@uccaustin.org.*

## Silent Prayer

**The Lord's Prayer**, *using these or whichever words are closest to your heart:*

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**Singing our Prayer** *As we close our prayer, we sing the following refrain once more:*

***O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.  
O Lord hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.***

## — WE SHARE OUR GIFTS AND HOLY COMMUNION —

*All are welcome at Christ's table – members, guests, first-timers, long-timers, baptized or not – all who desire to know and share the love of God are invited. When and if you are so moved, you may visit any or all of the following prayer stations during our time of communion:*

- 1. Candle-lighting:** At the table, you may light a candle in prayer if you wish.
- 2. Holy Communion:** At the table, you may take communion by intinction, taking a bit of bread and dipping it in the cup. *Note: All bread is gluten-free, and both red wine and white grape juice are offered.*
- 3. Letting Go:** On the chancel, you may prayerfully tie a piece of fabric onto the display, symbolizing something that is binding you, tying you down, or an attachment you would like to let go of during Lent, so that you might grow closer to God.
- 4. Offering:** By the door nearest the ramp, you may place your tithes and offerings for the work of the Church in the plate.
- 5. Prayer:** At the back of the sanctuary, an elder or a minister will be holding the space in prayer. You may approach him/her at any time to request a blessing, a prayer, or just a hug (requests will be kept in confidence unless otherwise requested). You may otherwise return to your seat to pray silently.

## We Give God Thanks & Praise

Rev. Anna Humble, Kelley DeCleene *deacon*

## Table Song

“Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am” (refrain)

*John Bell*



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

## Sharing the Sacrament and Gifts

One: ... let all God's people say:

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## — WE GO FORTH TO SERVE —

## We Are Sent Forth

One: ... Now our worship has ended.

**All: Let our service begin. Amen.**

## Sending Music

Music License: OneLicense.net License #A722068

**MAKE YOUR OFFERING VIA TEXT MESSAGE!** Initially, just text 512.842.6662 with the amount you'd like to contribute, making sure to include the dollar sign before the amount, for example: \$25. You'll receive a text back with a link to register. Once registered, you'll receive a receipt via email. For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

**Acolyte:** 9am Mikaela Fuller, 11am Rachael Simoneau; **After Church Clean-Up:** Maddie Hackenberg; **Call to Offering:** Mark Simoneau; **Deacons:** 9am Kelley DeCleene, Logan DeCleene, 11am Lydia Verosky, Stephanie Mack, Ray Mata, Jonabel Mata; **Elder:** 9 am None, 11am Andrea Larson; **Flowers:** None; **Greeters:** 9am Jan Keeling, 11am None; **Liturgist:** Jenny Veninga; **Tellers:** Jan Keeling and Jen Barrera; **Sound Room:** 9am None, 11am The Macks

*\*Every time you see this symbol, you are invited to rise in body or Spirit.*

## EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS for 3/24/19

**Dr. Rev. Laura Barnes** (aka Pastor Laura) will be joining us as our new Interim Senior Minister starting May 1, 2019. Thank you to our Interim Search Committee for all their time and energy spent spearheading this process.

**March Children's Offering** Birthday party supplies for Round Rock Area Serving Center, for example: streamers, candles, cake mix, frosting, party bags, invitations...

**Breaking Down Walls, online series for Lent**, will be offered Thursdays via Zoom. Formal gathering from 8:00 pm - 8:20 pm followed by an optional discussion time. The series will offer a different topic each week. You can join in for the complete series or just one topic. Instructions on pg. 11.

**Lenten Fast for Creation** Join with many other churches around the world in heeding the call to be stewards of God's Creation in a Lenten Fast for Creation. Each day during Lent, you will receive a message with a concrete step to fast from carbon, waste, and other harms to God's creation. To subscribe these daily messages by email, follow this link: <http://eepurl.com/gh-qJb>. By text, message **@carbonfast** to **81010**.

**Lenten Choir** Singers of all generations and levels of experience are invited to join us for Lenten Devotional Choir now until Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. We will rehearse during Lent from 7:15 to 8:30 PM on Wednesdays and 10:15 – 10:45 AM on Sundays. Childcare is always provided, and those with small children are may be dismissed before at 8:15!

**Children's Palm Sunday Choir** The children will sing during the 11 AM service on Palm Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. The song will be taught during the Time for Children at that same service.

**Easter Sunday Choir and Bell Choir** Would you like to sing or ring bells with us on Easter Sunday? You don't have to be a member of our Lenten Choir or come out weeknights to be a part of what will be a dazzling Sunday of music this year! We'll be learning all the music for Easter on the 4 Sundays leading up to it this year (3/24, 3/31, 4/7 & 4/14) and you're welcome to drop in for any one or all. Easter Choir will rehearse from 10:30-10:45 AM, and Easter Bells will rehearse following the 11 AM worship service. Come and sing and ring with us this Easter!

**AIDS/LifeCycle** Miles Ward will be joining us during Faith Formation NEXT SUNDAY to provide some education on and a giving opportunity to support AIDS/LifeCycle. More information on can be found at <https://www.aidslifecycle.org/>.

*\*Every time you see this symbol, you are invited to rise in body or Spirit.*

**God's Agents of Kindness (GAK)** Our Older Elementary mission group (3rd - 5th Grade) will meet on Sunday, March 31st during Faith Formation (10 am) to work with the children's mission offerings collected for Round Rock Serving Center.

**Savers Fundraiser** Our next youth mission trip fundraiser will be a collection and donation of gently used items for Savers. On Sunday, April 7th, you can bring your items to be donated and we'll load them up and take them to Savers. Please separate your items into soft goods and hard goods. Books and furniture cannot be accepted. A list of acceptable items can be found in the March Newsletter.

**Donations for Easter Egg Hunt** are being collected. We have the eggs, we need stuff to stuff into the eggs. Donations needed include: stickers, candy (no peanut products, please), small toys (Terra Toys and Party City are great places to find non-edible items). Donations requested by April 7th so that eggs can be stuffed by our Christian Education Committee. The hunt is scheduled for April 14th after the 11 am service.

**Outside Workday** planned for Saturday April 13th with the focus on preparing the back lawn and children's area for the Easter Egg Hunt (4/14); and the grounds for Easter Sunday (4/21).

**Austin Pride Festival Seeking Donations** We are seeking donations to cover the cost of a booth at the Annual Austin Pride Festival on August 10th. Booth costs \$375 plus we would like to be able to decorate and create material to share about UCC's Open and Affirming stance. The majority of visitors when asked how they found UCC say it is because they are looking for a church that is GLBTQ+ friendly. Also looking for leaders to plan this booth and for others to work the booth. Contact Rev. Nikki, if interested.

**Go Green!** Download this bulletin in PDF format from [www.UCCAustin.org/this-sunday](http://www.UCCAustin.org/this-sunday)

## – LEADERSHIP/COMMITTEE MEETINGS –

<b>Personnel</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sun @ 9am	personnel@uccaustin.org
<b>Christian Education</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sun @ 1pm	christianed@uccaustin.org
<b>Staff</b> Tue @ 9:30am	uccadmin@uccaustin.org
<b>Council</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue @ 7pm	councilchair@uccaustin.org
<b>Finance</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed @ 6:15pm	finance@uccaustin.org
<b>Worship</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed @ 6:15pm	worship@uccaustin.org
<b>Elders</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Weds @ 6:45pm	elders@uccaustin.org

## – ONGOING SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES –

<b>Sunday Faith Formation</b> @ 10am	Tracy Brown, christianed@uccaustin.org
<b>Youth Group</b> (see church calendar)	Meghan Trout, youth@uccaustin.org
<b>Youth(ful) Moms</b> when youth meet	Andrea Larson, andrea.larson@gmail.com
<b>Sunday FED</b> @ 5pm (member homes)	Lyn Brown, don.lyn@sbcglobal.net
<b>Tues Breakfast</b> @ 8am (Jim's Rest.)	Ken Dalley, kennethdalley@sbcglobal.net
<b>Evening Book Group</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Weds @ 6:30pm	Cherie Hinch, bfocat@yahoo.com
<b>Chancel Choir</b> Wed @ 7:00 & Sun @ 10:15	Rev. Humble, music@uccaustin.org
<b>Morning Book Group</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Fri @ 9:30am	Tammy Isenberg, disenberg9@hotmail.com
<b>Lunch Bunch</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Fri @ 11:15am (varies)	Ken Dalley, kennethdalley@sbcglobal.net
<b>Adult Game Night</b> last Fri @ 6:30pm	Evelyn Case, wcase@austin.rr.com
<b>Saturday FED</b> @ 6pm (Stahl's house)	Rev. Nikki Stahl, nikki@uccaustin.org

## **“Breaking Down Walls” Lenten Online Series Instructions**

If you “preregistered” with Arlene, an email invitation will be sent which will contain both a link to the meeting (for those using computers or smart phone app) or a phone number that you may call (for those just using a telephone) and a meeting ID (479248027). Follow the instructions on that invite.

### **Other ways to join**

#### **From app on your phone/tablet**

1. Download Zoom App (only the first time)
2. Open App
3. Enter Meeting ID 479248027
4. Hit Join button

#### **From computer or other browser**

1. Enter <https://zoom.us/j/479248027>

#### **From phone (not using an app)**

1. Dial 1 (669) 990-6833
2. When prompted, enter Meeting ID

# UNITED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF AUSTIN

*A member congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) & the United Church of Christ*

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Ann Vanderschaaf, *worship and choral accompanist*

Julie Stiles, *9am worship accompanist*